

REMARKS

Claims 17-53 are pending in this application. Claim 17 has been changed by this amendment to provide more clarity.

Applicant requests copies of the initialed Form 1449 sheets for the five Information Disclosure Statements (IDS's) submitted over the last year (submitted January 25, 2000; April 25, 2000; May 1, 2000; July 31, 2000; and September 15, 2000). Applicant has, at this time, received no such copies. If the Examiner cannot locate or has not seen one or more of these IDS's, he is requested to contact Applicant as soon as possible so that the IDS's in question may be resubmitted.

The Examiner is requested to update the correspondence address as indicated in the attached form.

The Examiner rejected claims 17-53 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and/or use the invention. The Examiner stated that claims 17 and 30 recite limitations not disclosed in the specification. Specifically, the Examiner stated that the limitation of a sensor provided within the housing that tracks the motion of the housing is not disclosed in the specification. Applicant respectfully disagrees. On page 1, lines 12-13, the specification states that "[t]o achieve access to the functions contained in the symbols a cursor is controlled by means of a tracking device (computer mouse, trackball, pointer, etc.) over a display unit showing the symbols..." On page 3, lines 31-32 and page 4, lines 1-3, the specification states that a computer mouse is connected to a host computer "by means of a signal cable 26 comprising signal lines a track balls, here not shown, transmitters in the x and y-direction. Furthermore, the signal cable comprises lines for transmitting status signals for the cursor 28 from a cursor controller comprised in the host unit 12, 14." From these descriptions, it is clear that a tracking device, such as a mouse or trackball, is disclosed that provides x-y signals to the host computer for controlling the position of a cursor on a display. It is well known that standard computer mice track position of the entire housing of the mouse when the user moves the mouse. Furthermore, sensors that allow such tracking of the housing of computer mice are very well known. For example, Fig. 4 illustrates one well-known example of a sensor, shown as a sphere or ball provided in a central aperture of the bottom of the housing 18, where the sphere is in contact with and moves x- and y-axis optical encoder-disk sensors when the mouse housing is

moved. Such a "track ball" sensor is disclosed in the specification as set forth above. These descriptions are in sufficient detail for one of skill in the art to make or use the invention.

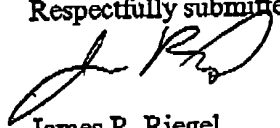
The Examiner also stated that the limitation of "an actuator included within and coupled to the housing" is not disclosed in the specification. Applicant respectfully disagrees. For example, on page 4, lines 26-28, the specification states that "vibrations can be achieved by means of devices such as electromagnets, piezoelectric transmitters, composite metals and other devices available in the market possibly achieving vibrations." One example of an actuator supportive of claims 17 and 30 is described with reference to Fig. 4, where "electromagnet 50 by means of screws is arranged in a means of attachment 52, here fixed by means of screws in the bottom portion 18 of the computer mouse 10...the movement [of the anchor 58] transforms into a vibration by means of the potential energy stored in the resilient means 56." Clearly, this example describes an actuator that is included within and coupled to the housing, as recited by Applicant, and in sufficient detail to enable one of skill in the art to make or use the invention. sensor

In view of the foregoing, Applicant believes that claims 17-53 are patentable, and respectfully requests that the rejection under 112, first paragraph, be withdrawn.

No amendment made herein was related to the statutory requirements of patentability unless expressly stated herein. No amendment made was for the purpose of narrowing the scope of any claim, unless Applicant has argued herein that such amendment was made to distinguish over a particular reference or combination of references.

Applicant believes that all pending claims are allowable and respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance from the Examiner. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the undersigned can be reached at the telephone number set out below.

Respectfully submitted,


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